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c/o 529 Talbot Rd
Stevensville,
MD 21666.
2nd August '04.

U. S. Patent & Trademark Office,
Commissioner for Patents,
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Application No. 10/646,591 Art Unit: 3611

Dear Ms. Lee S. Lum,

Firstly, my apologies for the late response to your communication regarding the above mentioned Patent Application. I have been fully committed to leading back to back cycle tours in England for International Bicycle Tours Inc., Essex, CT. with no real time off between. I have come to the U.S. to hopefully resolve matters with your goodself. I will, however, be returning home to the UK on the 24th August.

I regret that I am not skilled in Patent matters or familiar with some of the terms you use; However, I am sure we can speedily resolve matters if we have a meeting to discuss outstanding points. My UK patent attorney recently sent me a certificate of grant of patent number GB2392140 dated 30th June '04. I note that the claims in this were reduced from 25 to 8, so may be a similar approach would be of assistance? Regretfully, I can no longer afford to employ an attorney. I recently read in "Wooden Boat" an article by Chris Kulczycki how helpful the USPTO were to him in the several meetings between you during the processing of his application for "Lapstitch" construction of boats. Hopefully we can achieve results after just one meeting.

I am keen to comply exactly with all your requirements. I do travel a lot, but I can always be contacted via my long term friend, Mary C Kerr at the above address, or at my home in UK :- 24 Tower Hill Park, Costessey, NORWICH, NR8 5AT, UK. 'phone 01144 1603 746698.

Hoping to hear from you shortly,

Yours Sincerely,



Ken Baldwin.